2008

Wildlife & Parks

# **Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program Projects**



# ACCESS GUIDE



Turn in Poachers: 1-800-TIP-MONT (847-6668)

Welcome to the Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program Access Guide for 2008! This program was established to increase upland game bird numbers and to improve upland bird hunting opportunity. Each project listed in this booklet is funded by using Upland Game Bird License dollars and contributions from other sources. Some of those sources include participating landowners and conservation organizations such as Pheasants Forever and the National Wild Turkey Federation.

## **UPLAND GAME BIRD PROJECTS**

The Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program helps fund both habitat enhancement projects and pheasant release projects. Each entry in this booklet describes what type of project(s) was funded. Below is a description of each type of project:

- **Nesting cover** Many nesting cover projects are associated with the Conservation Reserve Program, in which UGBEP helped pay for a good nesting seed mixture. In general, these plantings may accommodate a mix of pheasants, gray partridge, and sharp-tailed grouse.
- **Grazing management** A grazing management project is a rest-rotation grazing system that provides undisturbed hiding cover on approximately 1/3 of the grazing system area each year. These projects are mostly geared toward prairie grouse and gray partridge but may also include pheasants.
- **Shelterbelts** Shelterbelts are shrub and tree plantings designed to provide winter cover for pheasants, sharp-tailed grouse and/or gray partridge.
- **Winter Food or Cover Plots** Primarily domestic grain plantings that serve as a winter food source for pheasants and gray partridge, but may also include sharp-tailed grouse.
- **Sagebrush Leases** 30-year leases with landowners in prime sage-grouse habitat. Through the lease, landowners agree not to spray, burn, or plow sagebrush grassland habitats.
- **Sagebrush Planting** Habitat restoration projects intended for expanding habitat primarily for sage-grouse.
- **Aspen Regeneration** Treatments of old and dying aspen stands for the purpose of rejuvenating them, enhancing stand survival, and improving long-term habitat productivity for ruffed grouse.
- **Wetland Restoration** A wetland restoration project entails constructing or repairing dams or restoring wetland habitat that is deemed important, primarily for pheasants.
- **Pheasant Release** UGBEP reimburses landowners for releasing pen-reared pheasants in habitats that support pheasants, intended for enhancing pheasant populations and hunting opportunities.

### ACCESS

This booklet provides information on each current project, which may occur on private, public or a mix of private and public lands. All projects listed in this booklet require "reasonable" access for upland game bird hunting. Because of the different sizes and qualities of projects, and the benefits they provide to upland game birds, individual private landowners and FWP biologists have jointly identified the levels of access a project area can support.

The enclosed maps show approximate project locations, each designated by a symbol. By looking up the associated number in the table for the FWP Region, designated at the top of the map, you can determine how to proceed with acquiring permission to access individual projects. Areas enrolled in the Block Management program will require following BMA rules for acquiring permission (see more below).

PERMISSION IS REQUIRED BEFORE HUNTING OR ENTERING ANY PRIVATE LAND PROJECT AREA. Note: Some areas provide walk-in permission with no further permission required. Please see the corresponding tables for specific details regarding acquiring permission.

PLEASE, NO SMOKING OR OTHER FIRES WHILE ACCESSING THESE PROPERTIES.

#### **BLOCK MANAGEMENT**

In addition to the Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program, FWP's Block Management Program also provides for hunter access to private lands. For some Upland Game Bird Projects, public hunting

is managed through the Block Management Program. Hunters are encouraged to contact the appropriate FWP regional office to obtain Block Management Program Materials. A map of the FWP regions and phone numbers for each office is provided on the next page.

#### **OTHER ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES**

Additional upland game bird hunting access may be available on more than 32 million acres of federal, tribal, and state lands within Montana, many of which offer upland game bird hunting opportunities. Information on FWP lands can be obtained from regional offices or by calling the FWP Helena Headquarters at 406-444-2535. Most federal agency offices have maps available that display the locations of federal and tribal lands.

Enjoy the fall season and your Montana hunting experience. Please be respectful to the lands you hunt, report any rule violations you may see (1-800-TIP-MONT) and remember to thank the landowners who grant you access to their property.

### CONTACTS

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Headquarters	
1420 East 6th Avenue, PO Box 200701, Helena, MT 59620-070	
Hunter Education Hunter Safety Requirements Wildlife Division Enforcement Division Licensing Division Telephone Device for the Deaf  Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks	
Visit Our Website at fwp.mt.gov	PRILIP 6  WOODEN PRILIP
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Headquarters	
Region 1 490 N Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901	406 752 5501
Region 2	400-732-3301
3201 Spurgin Road, Missoula, MT 59804	406-542-5500
Region 3	400 004 4040
1400 South Road, Bozeman, MT 59715	406-994-4042
4600 Giant Springs Road, Great Falls, MT 59405	406-454-5840
Region 5	
2300 Lake Elmo Drive, Billings, MT 59105	406-247-2940
Region 6 Route 1-4210, Glasgow, MT 59230	
Region 5	
Industrial Site West, PO Box 1630, Miles City, MT	406-234-0900
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Area Resource Offices	
Butte (BARO)	
1820 Meadowlark Lane, Butte, MT 59701	406-494-1953
Havre (HvARO)	400 005 0477
2165 HWY 2 East, Havre, MT 59501  Helena (HARO)	400-205-01//
930 Custer Avenue, Helena, MT 59602	406-435-3260
Lewistown (LARO)	
2358 Airport Road, PO Box 938, Lewistown, MT 59457	406-538-4658